FISCAL NOTE

SB 2257 - HB 2980

April 7, 2004

SUMMARY OF BILL: Increases the maximum number of charter schools from nine to 12 statewide that can be formed to *address the unique* needs of students eligible for special education services as identified by federal guidelines or provide local school systems the option to work in concert with the state's public higher education teacher training institutions.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Other Fiscal Impact - Shifts BEP funds from the LEAs to public charter schools in an amount estimated to exceed \$100,000.

Estimate based on the following:

- The bill increases the number of students who would be eligible as well as removing the annual limit on the number of charter schools that can be approved.
- Any increase in the number of potential charter schools or charter school students would result in a shift in local government revenues and expenditures from the LEA to the public charter school.
- Charter schools have an average enrollment of 100 students.
- An amount per student based on revenue would go to the charter school since funds follow the student.
- Estimate assumes that this bill would not require additional BEP funds, but such education BEP funds would be reallocated from traditional public schools, as the funds follow the student, to public charter schools.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

James W. White, Executive Director